

MEM-1049-63
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11 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Contracts Division

SUBJECT : Funding for Aircraft Failure Reporting Device

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REFERENCE : [] Proposal P-8318

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1. The reference proposal concerns a device to be carried aboard the F-8 aircraft which would, in the event of aircraft failure or a shoot-down, automatically transmit preselected aircraft and system parameters over the [] to remote ground stations. The analysis of such data would aid in the determination of disposition of the aircraft in the event the pilot failed to close his flight plan.

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2. The present situation is that [] has a "go-ahead" on completion of one unit to be installed by IAC. It has also been agreed among headquarters, IAC, and [] will provide Engineering Services which means they will analyze and determine the necessary modifications to sensors which feed into the gadget. The actual cost of supplying modified sensors to be compatible with the package, i.e., to supply a voltage to the package if the particular parameter varies beyond a predetermined value is not part of this proposal. Thus the quote of the Engineering Services portion cannot easily be evaluated, but it appears here to be on the high side. The only real solution to this problem is to have close monitoring of the "Services" by headquarters personnel as the program continues. The Engineering Analysis Division will be in a position to perform this monitoring function. The remaining cost [] seems in order, the fee for travel excepted.

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3. The "scope of work" is adequately described in the proposal by using the attachments and diagrams. Only two points need to be changed. Firstly, the pilot over-riding of the system by the push-to-talk button should be altered since in an emergency the pilot could deny valuable data. The solution would be the insertion of an additional function switch to prevent this situation or to provide automatic cut-off of pilot talk by the activation of the system. Secondly, the choice of which parameters may trigger the system should be agreed upon by IAC, [] and headquarters.

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4. It is expected, subsequent to the completion and installation of the first unit, that additional installations be only upon the specific requirements as submitted to the Engineering Analysis Division.

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[redacted] The necessary funds should be allocated from the [redacted]
line item for this purpose.

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[redacted]
Chief, Engineering Analysis Division
OSA-DD/R

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OSA/EAD [redacted] (8 Feb 63)

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